

Exploring the Five Pillars of Islam with Max and Ellie

Learning objective: To identify and explain the significance of the Five Pillars of Islam in the daily lives of Muslims.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of the Five Pillars of Islam to provide detailed explanations. Max and Ellie are looking for thoughtful answers that show a deep understanding of why these practices are important to the Muslim community.

Max the monkey is fascinated by the structure and discipline of the Five Pillars of Islam, while Ellie the elephant remembers that these acts are central to a Muslim's journey of faith. Together, they want to see how well you can explain these traditions.

Word bank: Shahadah · Salah · Zakat · Sawm · Hajj · Makkah · Mosque · Faith · Charity · Ramadan

1. Explain why the 'Shahadah' is considered the foundational pillar for a Muslim. Why must this be the first step in the faith? (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the practice of 'Salah' with the act of 'Zakat'. How do both contribute to a balanced life? (3 marks)

3. Justify why 'Sawm' (fasting during Ramadan) is more than just not eating food. What is the spiritual purpose behind this practice? (2 marks)

4. What might happen if the practice of 'Hajj' was removed from the Five Pillars? Explain the importance of the pilgrimage to Makkah. (3 marks)

5. Identify one way in which the Five Pillars help a person demonstrate their commitment to their community. Give an example. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a five-pointed star. In each point, illustrate one of the Five Pillars of Islam. Add a symbol or a small scene inside each point to represent the meaning of that pillar.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are explaining the Five Pillars to someone who has never heard of them before. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining why these pillars are described as a 'framework for life'. Why do you think these specific five acts are chosen to support the faith?